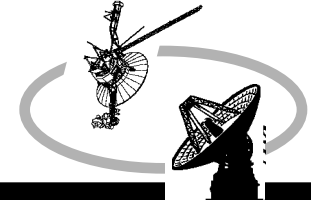


# Ground Antenna Systems

## First half FY01 Accomplishments



### DSS-13 W-band Assessment

- **Extended capability and optimized performance of radio astronomy W-band receiver staged at DSS-13**
  - Implemented computer-controlled aperture load and load temperature readout for calibrated, total power, radiometric measurements
  - Developed phase-lock for first local oscillator stage (75 GHz) in the laboratory
    - Once implemented and verified at the telescope, DSS-13 will be W-band VLBI-ready
  - Optimized W-band package z-axis alignment by measuring focus curves
  - Optimized noise temperature contribution of LNAs by bias adjustment of first and second amplifier stages to achieve design goal of  $T_{\text{RCVR}} = 65 \text{ K}$
  - Estimated contributions from the atmosphere and the antenna to zenith system temperature from tip curve and receiver temperature measurements:

$$T_{\text{RCVR}} = 65 \text{ K}$$

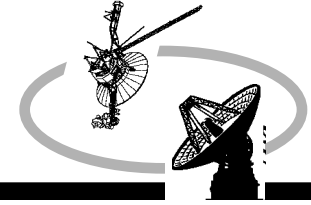
$$T_{\text{ATMOS}} = 16 \text{ K}$$

$$T_{\text{ANTENNA}} = 40 \text{ K}$$

$$T_{\text{SYS}} = T_{\text{RCVR}} + T_{\text{ATMOS}} + T_{\text{ANTENNA}} = 121 \text{ K}$$

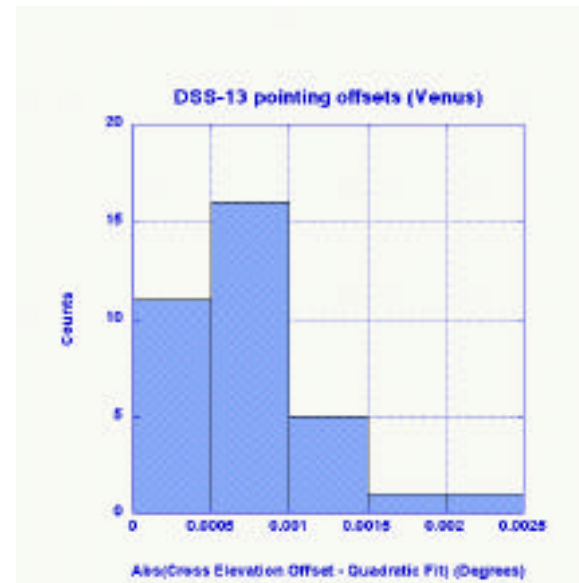
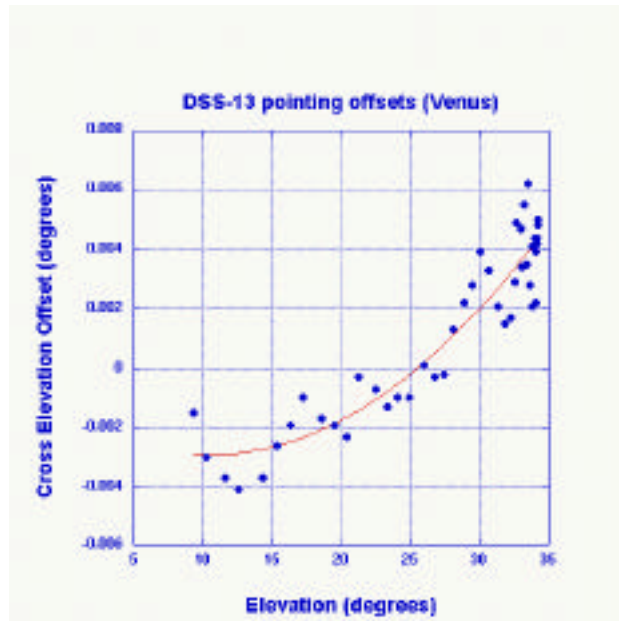
# Ground Antenna Systems

## First half FY01 Accomplishments



### DSS-13 W-band Assessment

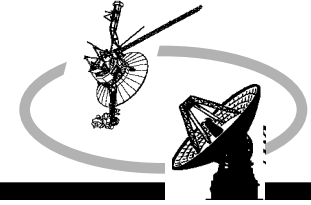
- Estimated preliminary blind-pointing capability



- Heuristic quadratic fit - “poor man’s” systematic error model
- Residuals about fit < 2 mdeg
- Repeatability needs to be verified
- Result should improve with respect to real systematic error model

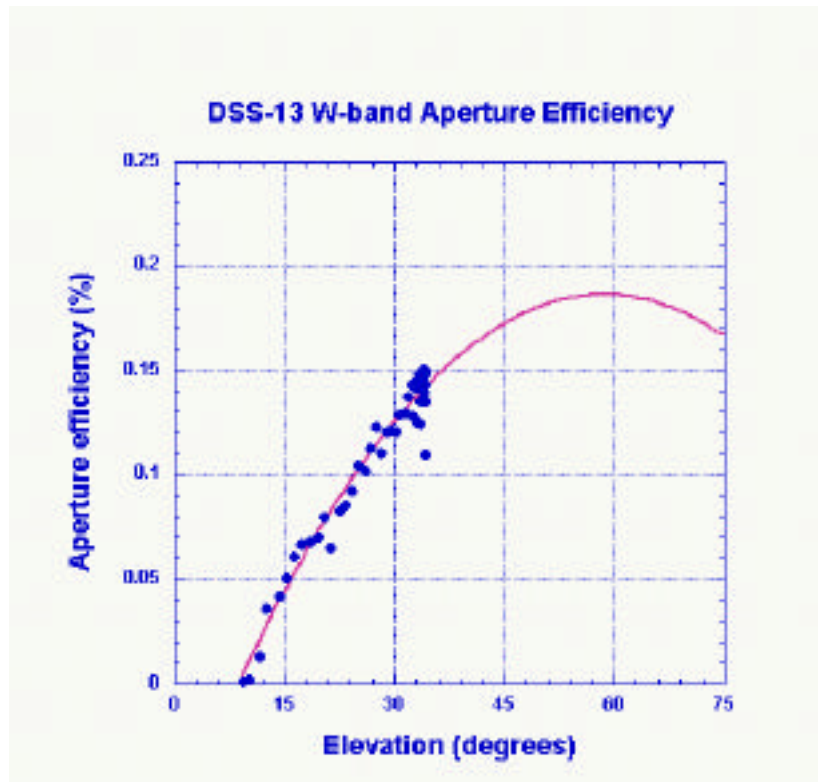
## Ground Antenna Systems

### First half FY01 Accomplishments



## DSS-13 W-band Assessment

- Measured preliminary aperture efficiency

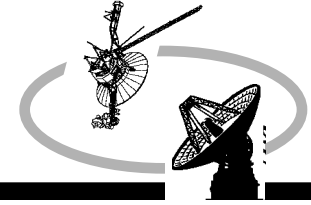


- Measured efficiency still increasing with elevation angle
- Peak efficiency still to be determined
- Expected symmetry, rolloff about rigging angle, still to be determined
- Extrapolation from curve fit suggests

**Peak aperture efficiency = 18%**

# Ground Antenna Systems

## First half FY01 Accomplishments



### DSS-13 W-band Assessment

- Developed design control table - predicted performance with current surface figures:

Element	Label	Efficiency(%)	Mirror RMS(Inches)
-----	----	-----	-----
Main reflector	a	0.4183	0.0102
Subreflector	b	0.8110	0.050
Feed Support Blockage	c	0.8746	Quadripod
Mirror 1, BWG	d	0.9529	0.0024
Mirror 2, SOLID	e	0.9670	0.0020
Mirror 3, BWG	f	0.9274	0.0030
Mirror 4, SOLID	g	0.9732	0.0018
Mirror 5, BWG(Ellipsoid)	h	0.9274	0.0030
Mirror 6, SOLID	i	0.9274	0.0030
Feed efficiency at F3	j	0.9600	
Non-diplexed I <sup>2</sup> R Loss	k	0.9900	
Path 1 VSWR			

$$E1 = \text{primary surface contribution} = a \times b \times c = 0.2967$$

$$E2 = \text{intermediate mirror contribution} = d \times e \times f \times g = 0.8317$$

$$E3 = \text{pedestal mirror contribution} = h \times i = 0.8601$$

$$E4 = \text{microwave subsystem contribution} = j \times k = 0.9504$$

$$\text{Predicted aperture efficiency at F3} = E1 \times E2 \times E3 \times E4 = .2017 \sim 20\%$$

- To be a world-class W-band antenna for VLBI, the DSN operational BWG subnet would need to achieve an aperture efficiency of 35%. Surface figures that would meet that goal:

$$E1 = .4455 = 0.55 \times 0.90 \times 0.90 = \text{main} \times \text{subreflector} \times \text{support blockage}$$

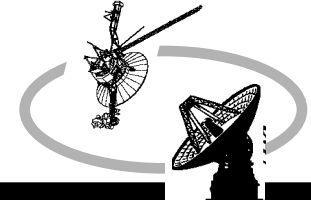
$$E2 = .9224 = (.98)^4, \text{ four reflecting surfaces}$$

$$E3 = .9025 = (.95)^2, \text{ two reflecting surfaces}$$

$$E4 = .9801 = (.99)^2, \text{ two elements}$$

$$\text{Aperture efficiency achieved at F3} = E1 \times E2 \times E3 \times E4 = 0.3635$$

## Ground Antenna Systems FY01 Q2 Scorecard

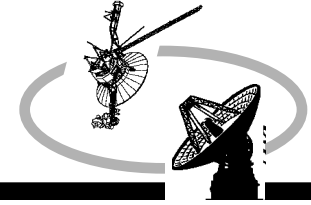


### DSS-13 W-band Assessment

- Receiver Development
  - • • • Phase-lock receiver first LO stage
    - Implemented and tested in the laboratory, to be verified at DSS-13 (Q3)
  - • • • Implement calibration capability utilizing an ambient load and noise diode
    - Load implemented and routinely operational
    - Noise diode approach still TBD and to be implemented (Q3)
  - ✓ • Optimize noise temperature contribution of LNAs by bias adjustment
- Pointing and Efficiency
  - ✓ • Measure aperture efficiency
  - • • • Assess antenna blind-pointing performance using point sources
    - Initial measurements with planetary targets; point source detections next (Q3)
  - ✚ • Developed initial design control table
- • • • Telecommunications link margin study
  - Slipped due to short-term workforce prioritization - putting out fires (Q3)

## **Ground Antenna Systems**

### **FY01 Q3 Planned Accomplishments**



## **DSS-13 W-band Assessment**

- **Receiver Development**
  - **Complete phase stabilization of the W-band receiver**
  - **Implement W-band appropriate, computer-controlled, noise injection technique to complete radiometric calibration capability**
- **Pointing and Efficiency**
  - **Measure aperture efficiency as a function of azimuth and elevation**
  - **Determine systematic error model based on point source observations**
  - **Assess blind-pointing performance with respect to systematic error model**
  - **Study the repeatability of 2 mdeg pointing precision**
  - **Apply raster scan technique at DSS-13 and obtain preliminary results at X- and Ku-bands**
  - **Assess capability of DSS-13 antenna servo system to support precise W-band tracking**
- **Telecommunications**
  - **Perform updated W-band link margin study**